Reserves are available only in the upper coal horizons of Jharia coalfields in Bihar which have been worked for over a century and have therefore been seriously depleted. Import of coking coal required for metallurgical purposes cannot be totally eliminated, since these are also required for blending with indigenous coal on quality considerations. Coast based power stations and cement plants are also importing small quantity of non-coking coal on consideration of transport logistics and commercial prudence as well as against export entitlements.

(c) Coal companies have generally been able to achieve their target of coal production. Coal production targets are fixed in consultation with Planning Commission after carefully considering various factors like demand, available production capacity, transport constraints, investments etc.

(d) The quantities and value of imports of coking and non-coking coals etc. during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (April—September, 96) are given as below:

(Source DGFT)

Data provisional

Year	Coking Coal	Non-coking and others including coke	Total	Value
	(Fig. in Million tonnes)			(Rs. in crores)
1994-95	10.16	1.23	11.39	2224
1995-96	9.37	4.31	13.68	3093
1996-97 (Apr—Sep., 96)	NA	NA	6.01	1578

Cess collected and Transferred to sugar Development Fund

1029. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of cess that has been collected and transferred to Sugar Development Fund upto the end of June, 1996;

(b) the number of sugar factories which have been advanced loan from this fund in the State of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh during the last two years; and

(c) the number of applications for loan pending at present and by when they are proposed to be given loans?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) The total amount collected as cess on Sugar upto the end of June, 1996 was Rs. 1840.77 Crores and an amount of Rs. 1656.00 Crores has been transferred to SDF.

(b) As per Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(c) As on date 14 applications for modernisation loan and 34 applications for Cane Development loans are pending. The pending applications are at various stages of processing. A loan would be advanced after completion of requisite formalities in accordance with SDF Rules and Guidelines.

Statement

Number of Sugar Factories to whom Loan have been advanced from the Fund During 1994-95 and 1995-96 in the State of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

Sl. No.	State	1994-95 No. of Factories	1995-96 No. of Factories
1.	Bihar	1	3
2.	Uttar Pradesh	6	8
TOTAL		7	11

Dry Port at Kandla

1030. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Dry Port at Kandla (Gujarat) to facilitate exports of agricultural and horticultural produce from Punjab and other North Indian States following the completion of the BG line between Bhatinda and Kandla;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme,

indicating the facilities to be provided for the Dry Dock and the cost of the project; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) A dry port normally means provision of facilities like warehousing of cargo, customs clearance, stuffing/destuffing, banking, services of steamer agents, freight forwarders, etc., at points away from maritime ports. In India these facilities are being provided at Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and Container Freight Stations (CFSs) which have been set up at various places.

An Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) is functioning in the Ministry of Commerce to provide single window clearance to the proposals for setting up of Dry Ports Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations (ICDs/CFSs). A proposal of Central Warehousing Corporation for setting up of a CFS at Kandla was cleared by the said IMC. The CFS at Kandla is in operation since March, 1996. The entire area can be utilised for stuffing agricultural and horticultural export commodities and various other commodities which are generated from the hinterland of Punjab & Haryana besides Delhi and Rajasthan. No fresh proposal has been received for another dry port at Kandla.

Decline in India's Export Trade

1031. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's export trade has fallen;

(b) if so, the details of the export trade during the years 1994,1995 and so far in 1996;

(c) the reasons for the fall in export trade; and

(d) the measures Government propose to take/have taken to boost the trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per DGCI&S data, the value of exports from India during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and April-Sept. 1996-97 were US $ 26330.28 million, US $ 31830.53 million and US $ 16139.76 million respectively.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are initiated by the Government to promote exports through simplification of policies and procedure, improving bilateral trade, debottlenecking of export infrastructure, enhancing the quality and competitive edge of Indian products.

Proposal to Decentralise the Operations of FCI

1032. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to decentralise the operations of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme under formulation; and

(c) by when it is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Most of the operations of Food Corporation of India have already been decentralised at Zonal/Regional/District levels. The field offices are delegated with powers for carrying out the day to day working for smooth functioning of the Corporation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

खाद्यान्नों के उत्पादन और उनकी खरीद में कमी

1033. प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या 1994-95 के मुकाबले 1995-96 में खाद्यान्नों के उत्पादन में 60 लाख टन की कमी हुई है;

(ख) क्या 1994-95 के मुकाबले 1995-96 में खाद्यान्नों की खरीद में 70 लाख टन की कमी हुई है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) सरकार खाद्यान्नों के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने के लिए क्या कदम उठा रही है?